ISSUE
1
15th September 2026

Sexton's Manor Primary School

Newsletter

Welcome Back to School!

Hello everyone,

What a great start we have had! The children have come back calm, happy and ready to learn. We are so proud of how hard they are working and how wonderfully they are behaving.

We hope the year 7 have settled into high school and are enjoying their new lessons. It was lovely to see some of them on Instagram smiling in their new uniform.

We are looking forward to another successful year together—one that will be even better than last year.

Our school is getting a fresh look too. We have started decorating and improving areas. Several parents said they had noticed the difference with the grounds looking neat and the school looking much cleaner. All thank to our amazing new caretaker Mr Cornish. In October we will all meet to plant hundreds of bulbs. We will wave goodbye to the summer and look forward to the spring to see them all appear, welcoming in the better and brighter weather.

We will soon be choosing our new school councillors. This will be an exciting opportunity for the children to be involved in shaping the school for the future. They will make decisions around activities, resources, charities we support and how they feel about the curriculum and policies that affect them.

Later in the letter I have added our provisional calendar dates.

Welcome back

To our wonderful community

Here is our bumper newsletter for the start of the year

Please check the school calendar for important dates and events. We hope to see you at many of them. Sometimes events may need to change at short notice, but we will let you know as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support. Let's make this year amazing—together!

Best wishes to all

Mrs Lorraine Ratcliffe

New Look News

Previously there was a newsletter at the end of each month. Parents had shared that they wanted better communication. We will therefore have a newsletter every two weeks on a Monday morning and regular Dojo updates for the important things.

Each term we will have a parent questionnaire which will help you to feedback on what you love and what drives you mad.

Together we will grow the school in to the amazing place our children deserve.

Sexton's Manor Primary School
Greene Road, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP33 3HG
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office@sextonsprimary.org.uk

All Saints Schools Trust

Some helpful reminders as we start our new school year

Children in year 5 and below will not be able to walk home alone. If you wish for your child to walk home from school on their own, you will need to complete a permission slip and return it to the class teacher.

If your child is unwell, please call the school office to let them know, otherwise we will call you. This is a statutory safeguarding duty that all schools do when we do not know where a child is.

Remember that the school gates close at 8.50am, please ensure your child is on the school grounds by this time.

Your class teacher will have written to you to let you know what your child will be learning this term and how you can support them. If you have any other questions about getting involved in their learning, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your class teacher.

If your child takes medication or has a lifelong medical condition they will need a health plan in place. Your class teacher will be in touch to make an appointment to review this during this term. If your child has been recently diagnosed with a medical condition, please contact your class teacher so you can write a new plan.

Please do not allow children on either climbing frame before or after school. They are not safe while we wait for work to be undertaken on them.

Please take care when parking to ensure children can safely cross the road and be seen by approaching cars. Please do not park on the school grounds. Parents are not able to come in to the car park unless they have permission. It is private property and you would not be insured.

Photos

Our trust is removing all children's faces from websites to avoid them being used by AI as it becomes more powerful. This will take a little time but will lead to a very different look to the website. We do not believe AI can access DOJO as it is heavily passworded. Therefore we are investigating this currentlv.

UNIFORM

It was wonderful to see almost all children wearing their school uniform as we returned to school. They looked delightful and so smart and proud.

Wearing uniform allows children to know what to wear each day to avoid the stress of trying to fit in or looking different. It is also an important part of being recognized as part of our community at Sexton's Manor.

Children will come to school in their school uniform every day. Children do not need to come in their PE kit. They will get changed for PE when they have a lesson.

If children do not come in uniform, the class teacher will let you know. We know that sometimes this might be because you have been working and have not seen your child before they set off.

We will lend them a school jumper for the day which they can leave at school for us to wash.

If you have any concerns about being able to afford school uniform, please speak to the school office. We can link you to places with uniform for free or very low cost.

As children attend secondary school, they will be expected to wear uniform or face punishment. As children start work experience or work, later in life, they will have a dress code or uniform, so we are setting good habits early.

There is a uniform list at the end of this newsletter and the policy on our website. We appreciate your support in achieving this.



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Please find below dates for upcoming events.

Please be aware that these events are provisional and subject to change.
There will be additional events over the year which we have not yet been able to confirm. We will notify you of these once we are able to.
In addition to these dates there will be visits and visitors to the school for each class. We are trying to keep the costs as low as possible through the use of local business sponsorship.
Further detail will be given in regular news letters. These dates are to help you book time off work where necessary. However, we cannot guarantee that they will take place as they are subject to other circumstances like weather, venue availability and staffing. We are waiting for feedback from Rev. Andy before being able to fix the Christmas dates.

Calendar 2026-27		
Date	**Event**	**Comments/information**
TBC	DISCO for the children	Times to be confirmed – Halloween and February
29th September and 1st October	Parent consultation evenings	Book a ten minute slot to celebrate your child's achievements
Friday 23rd October 8.30-9.00am	The Big Dig	Join us again to plant hundreds of bulbs with your children
16th -20th November	Anti bully week	
December	Reverse advent	Bring items of food and toiletries for the food bank
TBC	SANTA's grotto	Families will be able to buy tickets to visit Santa in his grotto
TBC	Year one and Year Two nativity	Parents will be able to come and enjoy the children's nativity
TBC	Nursery and reception AM and PM performance	Parents will be able to come and listen to the children sing and tell the story of the nativity
TBC	Whole school Christingle and Carols at the church	Parents welcome to join to watch the Christingle and join in with the carols – tickets only.
TBC	Christmas lunch	
26th January 28th January	Parent consultation evenings	Book a ten minute slot to celebrate your child's achievements
March	Giant school and community fete	Come and join us for the school fete, with shows and songs, stall and rides to enjoy
4th March	World Book Day	Events for the children across the school to celebrate reading and raise the profile of reading for pleasure.
9-13th March	Science and Tech week	Children will enjoy a range of science and engineering activities
TBC	Easter church service	Come and join us at the church for songs and the easter story
28th May	Sport's day – weather dependent	Details to follow closer to the date
5th July – y1 6th July -y2 7th July – y3 8th July -4/5 9th July 5/6 13th July Yr R	Open afternoon 2.30-3.15pm	Come and celebrate your child's achievements over the year
21st July	Y6 leaver's assembly	
	End of year extravaganza	A huge end to the year with the whole school community

Uniform list

Daily uniform

- Navy/jade sweatshirt or cardigan
- Navy/jade polo shirt
- Grey or black skirt
- Green or blue summer dress (checked pattern)
- Grey pinafore dress
- Grey or black trousers
- Grey or black tailored shorts
- Grey or black tights
- Grey or black socks
- School shoes – black is preferred. Plain black waterproof trainers may be worn.
- Skirts or shorts should be an appropriate length to allow children to sit comfortably on the floor (at least knee length).
- When shorts are worn they should be tailored and an appropriate length.
- Denim or stretch fabrics such as leggings are not permitted.
- A suitable waterproof coat with a hood.

PE and Games kit

- White T-shirt
- Black shorts
- Plain black plimsolls (Velcro fastenings are recommended for younger children)
- In cold weather: tracksuit bottoms and top
- A spare pair of socks is recommended in case they become damp

- no jewellery, with the exception of stud earrings, to be worn at school. None at all for any PE sessions for safety and insurance purposes. Earrings can easily catch on hair and clothes and can rip children's earlobes.
- Hair should be tied or held away from the face. No braids with beads owing to risk of other children being hit in the eyes as hair is flicked. No coloured hair other than charity events. No nail polish or false nails as this can peel into food being made or eaten or be a choking hazard.

Swimming

• plain swimming costume or swimming trunks not long board shorts as they are a drowning risk. Swimming hat and goggles.

If you are unsure or want to speak about school uniform –please contact the school office.

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

KEEP US UP TO DATE WITH YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Please ensure the school office has your most up to date contact details to ensure we can contact you in an emergency and so you do not miss updates.

For questions and queries, please contact:
Tel No: 01284 754371
E-mail: office@sextonsprimary.org.uk

Website: www.sextonsmanorschool.com

If your child is unwell, please contact the school office. You can call us after 8.30 or leave a message on the answer phone. Leaving messages for teachers or on Dojo can cause delays as teachers are not always able to check their Dojo accounts.

Thank you



If you need access to Dojo or need to make a payment or make an appointment with a member of staff, please contact the office who will be pleased to help you.

WRAP AROUND CARE

We have before and after school care from 7.45 to 5.15pm. If you wish to book a place, please speak to the office or Mrs Rigby.